THE ROCKEFELLER UNIVERSITY
1230 YORK AVENUE · NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10021

October 10, 1980

Dr. Joshua Lederberg
The Rockefeller University

Dear Josh:

The design of antidotes to acetylcholinesterase inhibitors would be fundamentally facilitated by sequence data and X-ray crystallography studies on the enzyme. Enclosed is a review on the enzyme by Massoulié (whose 1979 paper you sent me) and an article by Terrone Rosenberry and one of his students on the preparation of the enzyme by affinity chromatography (40 mg per $200 eel). Considerable progress has been made since I was consulted on this subject by David Nachmansohn and Barbara Low about a decade ago.

On the Rockefeller scene, Cunningham, Edelman, and Reeke would be the best-prepared team to tackle this specific problem. Vincent Fischetti is also a possible candidate. I am anxious to be of service, but my own schedule, which includes writing three chapters for the next volume of The Enzymes (edited by Paul Boyer) and the Christmas Lectures for Caspary will prevent my undertaking the necessary homework to develop a proposal in the coming months. A Medlars II citation list for 1978-1980 gives me 457 references on acetylcholinesterase as a starter. An investigator who has been active in the field would be in a position to draft promptly an effective letter-of-intent. Rosenberry, now at Case Western Reserve, has done the best current work on the purification of the enzyme and its preliminary characterization.

Sincerely,

Stanford Moore

SM: lta
Enclosures

Rosenberry Biochemistry
16(16):3550 1977